

February 12, 2013

Dear Appropriations Committee,

My name is Sandra Gallagher, and I am writing to express my deepest and utmost concern of cutting the Children's Trust fund programs. Research has shown that participation in CTF programs dramatically reduces the risk of child abuse and neglect. CTF programs have also helped parents improve their life circumstances, including high school completion, independent living, and employment. On behalf of all the Connecticut families I am writing to request that CTF funds not to be cut for programs that provide much needed services to strengthen families, promote health, and help to prevent child abuse and neglect. Cutting funding to programs, such as, Family Empowerment Programs, Fatherhood program and Family School Connection would leave families without the necessary supports to build on their natural strengths, improve parenting skills, and decrease dependency on long-term state assistance overall. Please consider all I have said and make no cuts to the CTF programs.

Respectfully,

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